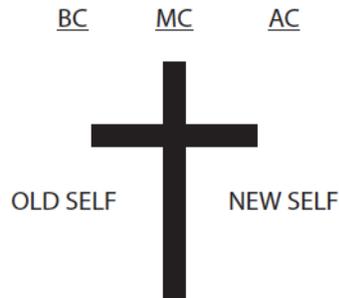


TELLING YOUR STORY

The “3 Handle” Approach

Telling your transformation story can seem overwhelming, especially because this really is a story about your entire life. The way to gain confidence is by understanding how to tell your story in a clear, simple, and interesting way. This can be done using the “3 Handle Approach.” People just want to know how your relationship with Jesus has changed you. They want to know the difference He has made in your life. This approach helps you to communicate that in a clear and simple way.



*“If anyone is in Christ, he is a NEW creation.
The OLD is gone, and the NEW has come.”
2 Corinthians 5:17*

Handle #1: Before Christ (B.C.)

- **The focus of the “B.C. Handle”:** Your OLD self, before faith in Jesus.
- **The Question to answer in the “B.C. Handle”:** What were you like BEFORE you asked Jesus to be the Forgiver of your sins and Leader of your life?
- **What if put my faith in Jesus as a child, and don’t remember myself Before Christ?** Remember, your story shows what difference Jesus has made in your life; how he has transformed you. You don’t need to have this handle to have a powerful story, so skip this handle.

Handle #2: Meeting Christ (M.C.)

- **The focus of the “M.C. Handle”:** How you MET Christ (Put your faith in Him).
- **The Question to answer in the “M.C. Handle”:** HOW and WHY did you put your faith in Jesus by asking Him to be the Forgiver of your sins and the Leader of your life?
- **Some things to consider:**
 - Simply tell the story of what your experience was like putting your faith in Jesus. This should be a clear description of HOW you put your faith in Jesus.
 - You want everyone who hears your story to be able to walk away and do the same thing you did. Keep your description of this process simple, clear, and easy to imitate.
- **What if I don’t remember a certain “date”?** You don’t have to remember a certain date you put your faith in Jesus. Chances are, it was more of a process. However, at some point you decided to ask Jesus to forgive you of your sins and to be the leader of your life. Tell about how you came to this decision.

Handle #3: After Christ (A.C.)

- **The focus of the “A.C. Handle”:** Your NEW Self, after you put your faith in Jesus.
- **The Question to answer in the “A.C. Handle”:** How has your life changed since you asked Jesus to be the Forgiver of your sins and the Leader of your life? (What difference has he made?) This is the part of your story you want to emphasize the most, because you are in essence telling Jesus’ story.
- **Some things to consider:** This is the part in your story where you are able to talk about how your life has been transformed – the biggest difference between OLD and NEW life (2 Cor. 5:17). A powerful way to communicate life transformation is by showing how your life changed from B.C. to A.C. – What difference has Jesus made?

Think Through Your Story

Handle #1: Before Christ (B.C.)

What were you like before you put your Faith in Jesus by asking him to be the forgiver of your sins and leader of your life? Another way to ask this question, what was the problem? (i.e., Lonely, hopeless, broken, shame-filled, etc.) ***If you put your faith in Jesus at a young age, you may want to skip this question.

What made you start thinking that Jesus could make a difference in your life? *(message by pastor, your group experience, felt God speaking to you, saw the change in someone else you know...etc.)*

Handle #2: Meeting Christ (M.C.)

Why did you end up putting your faith in Jesus by asking Him to be your forgiver and leader? *(ie. a specific message at a Sunday gathering, hit rock bottom, someone helped you, realization of cannot do it alone anymore, etc?)*

Specifically, what was your experience like? When and how did you put your faith in Jesus? *(Did you pray after a gathering, did someone pray with you? Where were you when you did this? How did you do this etc...)*

Handle #3: After Christ (A.C.)

How has your life changed since you asked Jesus to be the Forgiver of your sins and Leader of your life? What difference has Jesus made in your life? *(Full of hope, purpose, emotional healing, security, love, family, etc)*

In what other ways has your relationship with Jesus transformed you? *(***This is the part of your story that is most important and you want to emphasize the most)*